

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 00939 271054 Z

50

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AID-20 OMB-01 ACDA-19 EUR-25 IO-13 RSR-01 NIC-01 /163 W  
----- 062822

R 270916 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 977

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0939

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ET SO

SUBJ: SOMALI- ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS

1. DURING MY MEETING WITH SIAD, LATTER VOICED AMBIVALENT FEELINGS TOWARD ETHIOPIAN EMPEROR. AT ONE POINT HE SAID IT WAS LUDICROUS THAT HIM WAS CALLED " FATHER OF AFRICA" WHEN HE WAS " WORSE COLONIALIST THAN EVEN THE PORTUGUESE AND SOUTH AFRICANS." AT ANOTHER POINT SIAD CALLED HIM " GENTLE" AND OPINED THAT EMPEROR MUST BE LOSING HIS GRIP. THE LAST LETTER HE HAD RECEIVED FROM HIM JUST BEFORE OAU SUMMIT HAD BEEN ARROGANT AND ALMOST RUDE. " THIS WAS NOT HAILE SELASSIE."

2. SIAD EXPRESSED WONDER THAT US HAD BECOME DEEPLY INVOLVED WITH SUCH " FEUDAL, BACKWARD" REGIME AS ETHIOPIA. WHAT WAS EMPEROR' S MOXIE WITH AMERICANS?

3. I SAID AMERICAN PEOPLE HAD NEVER FORGOTTEN PICTURE OF LONELY LITTLE FIGURE AT GENEVA AT TIME OF ITALIAN INVASION. WE HAD A LOT OF SYMPATHY FOR THE UNDERDOG.

4. SIAD MULLED THIS ONE OVER FOR A WHILE. HE SOON RECOVERED, HOWEVER, AND SAID, " BUT THE ETHIOPIANS, WITH ALL THE SUPPORT  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOGADI 00939 271054 Z

YOU GIVE THEM, ARE NO LONGER THE UNDERDOGS. WE ARE. WHY CAN' T THE US SEE THAT?"

5. I REPLIED THAT WITH ITS ARMY STRENGTH AND MUSCLE FLEXING, SOMALIA DID NOT EXACTLY LOOK LIKE AN " UNDERDOG." RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, THE ETHIOPIANS CONTINUED TO BE VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT SOMALI INTENTIONS. US PRESENCE AT KAGNEW HAD BEEN REDUCED AND WOULD IN TIME BE PROBABLY REDUCED FURTHER. I PERSONALLY WONDERED WHETHER MILITARY INSTALLATIONS OF GREAT POWERS IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD HAD HELPED THINGS OR WERE ESPECIALLY POPULAR WITH THE LOCAL PEOPLES. ( COMMENT: SOVIET MILITARY ADVISER WAS REPORTEDLY KILLED A FEW DAYS AGO BY SOMALI OFFICER.) MOREOVER, WE INTENDED TO ACT WITH GREAT RESTRAINT IN THE CURRENT ARMS COMPETITION.

6. AS IN PAST, SIAD SCOFFED AT IDEA OF SOMALIA' S TRYING TO TAKE ON ETHIOPIA MILITARILY. HE AGAIN GAVE ME HIS WORD THAT SOMALIA WOULD NOT ATTACK. ALL HIS EFFORTS WERE DIRECTED TOWARDS TRYING TO BRING ABOUT HIS COUNTRY' S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRAM. HE NEEDED BOTH TIME AND PEACE.

7. I SAID I WAS CONVINCED ETHIOPIA SIMILARLY HAD NO INTENTION ATTACK SOMALIA. NEVERTHELESS, I DID THINK VERY DANGEROUS SITUATION WOULD BE CREATED IF GUERRILLAS -- SOMALI, ARAB OR OTHER -- WERE EVER TO TRY TO PENETRATE ETHIOPIA FROM SOMALIA AND STIR UP TROUBLE. THIS HAD BEEN TRIED BY THE ABDIRAZAK GOVERNMENT YEARS AGO AND RECRUDESCENCE OF SUCH TACTICS COULD WELL HAVE UNPREDICTABLE CONSEQUENCES. SIAD REJOINED THAT THIS HAD NEVER BEEN DONE BY HIS GOVERNMENT. IN FACT, HE HAD PUT IN PRISON " WITH HEAVY HEART" A NUMBER OF WOULD- BE GUERRILLAS.

8. SIAD SAID TENSIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES STILL BAD AND HE REMAINED UNEASY. ETHIOPIANS HAD NOT WITHDRAWN ANY TROOPS FROM BORDER SINCE OAU SUMMIT. ON CONTRARY, SOME HAD EVEN MOVED IN CLOSER. HE WAS STILL PUZZLED AND WORRIED BY WHY HIS DIALOGUE WITH EMPEROR HAD BEEN BROKEN OFF AND INSTEAD TROOPS SENT INTO OGADEN. " THIS COSTS A LOT OF MONEY AND THEY DON' T HAVE THAT MUCH."  
LOORAM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:**  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JUN 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MOGADI00939  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** MOGADISHU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730632/aaaajsmr.tel  
**Line Count:** 104  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 04 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <04-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <05-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980304  
**Subject:** SOMALI- ETHIOPIAN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ET, SO, n/a  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA  
AF  
NAIROBI  
ROME  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

